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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,566

Applicant(s)

MCKENNA, THOMAS P.

Examiner

SON P. HUYNH

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Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,9-16,37-41,45-52 and 56-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,9-16,37-41,45-52 and 56-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 9-16, 37-41, 45-52, 56-63 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant argues the cited references do not teach or suggest three distinct areas of the user interface for displaying (1) folders for organized PIOs, (2) PIOs associated with a selected folder, and (3) supplemental information retrieved for a selected PIO (page 17).

It is noted that the claims do not recite three distinct areas. The claims only recite "first area", "second area", and "third area" of the GUI.

Rejections of claims are discussed below.

Claims 6-8, 17-36, 42-44, 53-55 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject

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matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 9-16, 37-41, 45-52, 56-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruck et al. (US 7,143,428 B1), in view of Kanungo (US 2003/0056215 A1) and further in view of Alexander et al. (US 6,177,931).

Regarding claim 1, Bruck discloses a method for providing supplemental information (e.g. chat, logo, title, information from web site, etc.) related to a television program (see include, but is not limited to, figures 5-9, 12-13), the method comprising:

storing a plurality of PIOs within a memory of an entertainment system (e.g. storing web pages which may be employed as a user interface templates in memory – see include, but is not limited to, col. 9, lines 32-57), each PIO comprising a single data structure for representing a single respective television program (each user interface/web page comprises structure of web page employed as user interface template for representing a single show, episode or program on particular network affiliate (e.g., NBC), etc., see include, but are not limited to, col. 5, lines 34-48, col. 6, lines 43-56, col. 7, line 17-col. 9, line 67), each PIO (user interface or web page associated with particular channel, network affiliate, show) encapsulating:

attribute data for one or more attributes providing information about a single television program, at least one attribute comprising a link to supplemental

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information related to the television program (the formatted web page comprises attributes data such as program title, time, rated, or web site, etc. providing information about a single television program (e.g. Dr. Katz, Professional Therapist), the attribute comprising at least one link to chat room, web site, etc. related to the show or the program being tuned – see include, but are not limited to, figure 12, col. 4, line 60-col. 5, line 2),

a plurality of actions to be performed in connection with the single television program, wherein each of the actions are represented within the PIO as program code (a plurality of actions such as link to web site, record, remind, etc. to be performed in connection with a single show, or program in particular network affiliate, etc., each of the actions such as link to website, record, remind, etc. are represented by icons within the user interface/web page as program code (e.g., program code of software, of HTML application, etc.) that cause the user interface and the icons to be displayed and the actions to be performed – see include, but are not limited to, col. 3, lines 50-52, col. 4, lines 18-22, col. 4, line 55-col. 5, line 15, lines 35-65, col. 6, lines 8-15, lines 42-57, col. 7, line 1-col. 9, line 67);

program code comprises, for each action, a routine in a machine format that is executable in a machine within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent in order to perform the associated user selected action (interpreted as and program code (e.g. HTML code, or program code), that are executable by the device/CPU in the set top box/computer to perform predetermined function such as record, remind, link,

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etc. the program code of software or web page downloaded and executable by destination device that the web page is sent in order to performed user selection action such as record, link to web site, etc. - see include, but is not limited to, figures 1-4, 12-13, col. 3, lines 46-56, col. 4, lines 14-20, col. 5, lines 3-38, col. 6, lines 5-20, lines 42-65, col. 7, lines 1-25, col. 9, lines 32-67);

graphical data for display as an icon to visually represent the PIO within a graphical user interface (GUI), the GUI being other than a grid-based electronic program guide (EPG) including rows corresponding to television channels (e.g., data for display as still images in separate small areas, title icon, network affiliate icon, etc. representing the web pages, employed as user interface templates, of display screen – see include, but are not limited to, figures 4-7, 12-13, col. 8, line 61-col. 9, line 3);

displaying icons on a GUI (e.g., displaying still images in separate small areas, title icons, network affiliate logos, etc. representing the plurality of web page in the display screen/electronic program guide, user favorite mode screen – see include, but are not limited to, see include, but are not limited to, col. 8, line 61-col. 9, line 3);

in response to a user picking the icon of the selected PIO within an area of the GUI, displaying a context menu listing the one or more actions associated with the selected PIO, at least one of the actions for displaying supplemental information related to the associated television program (e.g., in response to user selection of a small area. that display the still image of channel/logo icon of network affiliate, channel icon, title icon, etc. within the display screen, displaying

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a web page associated with the selected small area, network affiliate logo, title, etc. the web page listing record, remind, link, or chat room, etc. associated with web page of the show, web page of the affiliate, etc., at least one of the actions for displaying chat room, website, etc. related to the television program, show, network affiliate, etc. see include, but are not limited to, see include, but are not limited to, figures 6-10, 12-13, col. 4, lines 64-col. 5, line 2, col. 6, line 42-col. 7, line 25, col. 7, lines 44-57, col. 8, line 61-col. 9, line 3);

in response to the action for displaying supplemental information being selected from the context menu, using the at least one attribute corresponding the link to retrieve the supplemental referenced by the link (e.g., in response to user selection of chat icon, web site, etc. using attribute (e.g., title, network, etc.) corresponding to the link to website, chat room, etc. to retrieve chat content, web site content, etc. referenced by the link – see include, but are not limited to, figures 6-12, col. 4, lines 64-col. 5, line 2, col. 6, line 42-col. 7, line 25, col. 7, lines 44-57)

displaying the retrieved supplemental information in a third area of the GUI(e.g. displaying additional information of the program, information from the web site, or chat room information, etc. in an area on television screen – see include, but is not limited to, figures 1, 3, 6-12, col. 7, lines 44-67, col. 8, lines 44-60, col. 9, lines 45-57).

However, Bruck does not explicitly disclose displaying representations of a plurality of folders in a first area of the GUI, each folder being associated with one or more PIOs; in response to a user selecting a particular folder in the first

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area, displaying an icon for each PIO associated with the selected folder in a second area of the GUI; the program code comprises a routine in a machine independent format that is executable in a Java virtual machine within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the routine does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform the associated user-selected action.

Alexander discloses displaying representations of a plurality of folders in a first area of the GUI, each folder being associated with one or more PIOs (interpreted as displaying icons representations of a plurality of folders such as sorts, scheduling, movies, sports, etc. in an area of the interactive television screen, each folder (e.g., movies, sports, etc.) associated with one or more program title, channel, etc. - see include, but are not limited to, figure 5-7, col. 7, lines 46-56);

in response to a user selecting a particular folder in the first area, displaying an icon for each PIO associated with the selected folder in a second area of the GUI (e.g., in response to user selecting of MOVIES icon in the first area, displaying an icon for each title or program associated with the selected MOVIES folder in a second area of the interactive television program guide screen - see include, but are not limited to, figures 7-8, col. 7, lines 46-56); in response to the user picking an icon of the selected PIO within the second area, displaying a context menu listing the one or more actions associated with the selected PIO (e.g., in response to user selecting a particular movie title icon, displaying detail information and action including watch icon, record icon that

allow user to watch or record the highlighted icon - see include, but are not limited to, figures 1, 5-8);

displaying retrieved supplemental information in a third area of the GUI (e.g., displaying detail information, web page, etc. in the ad window, or detail description area, etc. - see include, but are not limited to, figures 1, 3-8, col. 17, line 48-col. 19, line 45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bruck with the teaching as taught by Alexander in order to yield predictable result of improving efficiency in content navigation and displaying to the user.

Bruck does not explicitly disclose program code comprises a routine in a machine independent format that is executable in a Java virtual machine within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the routine does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform the associated user-selected action

Kanungo discloses the program code comprises a routine in a machine independent format that is executable in a Java virtual machine within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the routine does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform the associated user-selected action (program code comprise routine in Java applet, platform independent bytecodes, that is executable in Java virtual machine (108) within the interactive television system or any destination device (e.g., set top box and television display) to which the Java applet/bytecodes is sent such that the routine does not need to

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be installed on the set top box, or other destination device prior to receiving web page or any program interface object in order to perform the associated user selectable action such as on/off, TV/video tv, broadcast cable, 25%, 50%, etc. – see include, but are not limited to, figures 1a-3b, 4a-4d, 6-8b, paragraphs 0010, 0034-0036, 0040-0041, 0043-0044, 0050-0052, 0055, 0058-0060). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bruck in view of Alexander with the teaching as taught by Kanungo in order at least to easily change the appearance and functionality of virtual remote control without having modify the hardware and software that is built into the platform on which the applet is executed (see paragraphs 0009, 0011, 0083).

Regarding claim 2, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses in response to user selection of a link for supplemental information such as access web site, access chat room, etc., information from the web site, chat content, etc. are provided to the user – see including, but is not limited to, figures 4, 6-12, col. 7, lines 26-67). Inherently, a communication is established with a supplemental information server (i.e. remote server, host server, or chat server– figures 4, 6, 9-12), supplemental information referenced by the link is requested from the supplemental information server and received by the entertainment system so that the content from web page, or content from chat

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room is displayed on the screen – see include, but is not limited to, figures 6,9-12, col. 7, lines 44-67).

Regarding claim 3, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 2. Bruck further discloses the supplemental information server comprises an Internet server (see include, but is not limited to, figure 4, col. 6, lines 8-65).

Regarding claim 4, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses the link comprises the URL (see include, but is not limited to, col. 6, line 66-col. 7, line 5).

Regarding claim 5, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses the link comprises a file name (e.g. data file, web page, or chat room, etc. see include, but is not limited to, col. 6, line 42-col. 7, line 16, figure 12).

Regarding claim 9, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses automatically displaying the supplemental information in response to the television program being presented by the entertainment system (e.g., automatically discloses information of chat room, program title, logo, or web site,

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etc. associated with the selected television – see include, but is not limited to, figures 5-12, col. 7, line 10-col. 8, line 60, col. 9, line 22-col. 10, line 3, col. 10, lines 41-45).

Regarding claim 10, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses automatically display the supplemental information television program prior to television program being presented by the entertainment system (e.g., a reminder automatically appears prior to the start of the show, or automatically change the link to the chat room for the next show playing on that network – see include, but is not limited to, col. 8, 18-21, lines 56-60; col. 10, lines 59-67).

Regarding claim 11, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses the displaying comprises:

launching a browser configured to display the supplemental information (launching a browser configured to display web page, or chat room, etc. – see include, but is not limited to, col. 3, lines 61-56, col. 6, lines 8-20, lines 42-50, col. 6, line 66-col. 7, line 58, col. 9, lines 32-67); and

displaying the supplemental information within the browser (e.g. displaying chat information, or web page content, etc. within the formatted web page/user interface, see figures 6-13).

Regarding claim 12, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses the PIO comprises a set of link attributes, each link attribute comprising a different link to a set of supplemental information (the formatted web page/user interface comprises a set of link attributes such as link to web site, link to chat room, etc., each link attribute comprises a different link such as link to associated chat room, or link to associated web site, etc. – see include, but is not limited to, figure 12).

Regarding claim 13, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 12. Bruck further discloses displaying a list of link attribute associated with the PIO (e.g. display link attribute such as chat link, or web site link, etc. associated with the formatted web page/user interface, see include, but is not limited to, figure 12); and receiving a user selection of a particular link attribute from the list of link attribute (i.e. receiving user selection of link to chat room, link to web site, etc. – see include, but is not limited to, figure 12).

Regarding claim 14, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Neither Bruck nor Alexander nor Kanungo specifically discloses the supplemental information comprises an XML document. Official Notice is taken that using XML document is well known in the art. For example, using XML document/code for web page.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bruck in view of Kanungo with the teaching of XML document in order, at least, to allow the creator to create customized tags for a display, or to provide a simple language and easily to learn the language.

Regarding claim 15, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Kanungo further discloses the PIO comprises a JavaBean object (see include, but are not limited to, paragraphs 0011-0013, 0034, figures 5a-6).

Regarding claim 16, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo teaches a method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Bruck further discloses the entertainment system is selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, an interactive television (ITV) system (see include, but is not limited to, col. 3, lines 34-55, col. 4, lines 55-67, col. 6, lines 8-20).

Regarding claims 37-41, 45-51, the limitations of the system as claimed correspond to the limitations of the method as claimed in claims 1-5, 9-15, and are analyzed as discussed with respect to the rejection of claims 1-5, 9-15.

Regarding claim 52, the limitations as claimed correspond to the limitations of claim 37, and are analyzed as discussed with respect to the rejection of claim 37.

Regarding claim 56, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo discloses the method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Alexander further discloses interactive program guide screen including themes, time schedule, etc. are customized based on user profile/user selections - see include, but are not limited to, 29, line 45-col. 33, line 15, col. 7, lines 45-56). Thus, at least one folder (e.g., folder associated with movies) in the first area is associated with a particular user of the entertainment system.

Regarding claim 57, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo discloses the method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Alexander further discloses interactive program guide screen including themes, time schedule, etc. are arranged/customized based on user profile/user selections. When user select a particular time, icons of titles/channels associated with the selected theme are displayed- see include, but are not limited to, 29, line 45-col. 33, line 15, col. 7, lines 45-56, figures 5, 7-9). Thus, the two or more folders (e.g., movies, sports, etc.) in first area are organized into a hierarchy having root node corresponding to a particular user of the entertainment system (e.g., in response to user selecting "movies", listing titles and other information associated with user profile).

Regarding claim 58, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo discloses the method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Alexander further

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discloses at least one folder in the first area is associated with one or more PIOs representing television programs being broadcast on a particular day (e.g., MOVIES folder is associated with one or more interactive icons representing television programs being broadcast on a particular day (e.g., Sat. or Tuesday, Sept. 23) - see include, but are not limited to, figures 1, 3, 5, 8).

Regarding claim 59, Bruck in view of Alexander and further in view of Kanungo discloses the method as discussed in the rejection of claim 1. Alexander further discloses at least one folder in the first area is associated with one or more PIOs representing television programs of a particular genre (e.g., MOVIES, Sports, etc. - see include, but are not limited to, figures 1, 3, 5, 8).

Regarding claims 60-63, the additional limitations of the system correspond to the additional limitations of the method as claimed in claims 56-59, and are analyzed as discussed with respect to the rejection of claims 56-59.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Agasse et al. (WO 00/05886) discloses navigation system for a multichannel digital television system.

Proehl et al. (US 6,690,391 B1) discloses modal display, smooth scroll graphic user interface and remote command device suitable for efficient navigation and selection of dynamic data/options presented within an audio/visual system.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SON P. HUYNH whose telephone number is (571)272-7295. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher S. Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Son P Huynh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2623

September 20, 2008